

Describing his sensations at the time of the shooting, a few days later, Roosevelt said: "*It was nothing, nothing. I felt a little pain, but it was not serious. When I stretched out my arms or reached for my manuscript it made me gasp a bit, but that was all. It was quite amusing when I reached for my manuscript to see that it had a hole in it from the bullet and there was a hole in my spectacle case too.*"

"Amusing, did you say, Colonel?" some one asked.

"Well, it was quite interesting," he replied.

"It was difficult to keep my temper," he added, "when at the close of my speech a half dozen men scrambled upon the platform to shake hands with me. Didn't they know that it is impossible for a man who has just been shot to shake hands with genuine cordiality?"

The shooting had completely arrested the progress of the campaign, both Taft and Wilson sending messages of sympathy and refraining from public utterances while the ultimate effect of the attack was in doubt. Two days after reaching the hospital Roosevelt made a statement for publication in which he urged that the campaign be resumed without regard to his condition. In this he said:

"I cannot too strongly emphasize the fact upon which we Progressives insist, that the welfare of any one man in the fight wholly is immaterial compared to the great and fundamental issues involved in the triumph of the principles for which our cause stands. If I had been killed the fight would have gone on exactly the same. . . . So

far as my
opponents are concerned, whatever could with
truth and
propriety have been said against me and my
cause before
I was shot can with equal truth and equal
propriety be said
against me now, and it should be so said; and
the things
that cannot be said now are merely the things
that ought
not to have been said before. This is not a
contest about
any man; it is a contest concerning
principles."

He remained in the hospital till October 21,
when he went
to his home in Oyster Bay. The man who shot
him was a